

Aug. 9. 2007, 12:25PM MacPherson, Kwok, Chen & Hei
App. No. 10,317,372
Amendment dated Jun. 9, 2007
Reply to final Office action dated Mar. 9, 2007

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above amendment and the following remarks accompany a request for continued examination (RCE) of this application and are in reply to the final Office action of 03/09/2007. In light of this reply, reconsideration and further examination of this application are respectfully requested.

Twenty claims were pending in this Application. In the above amendment, 17 claims (1, 2, 4, 5, 7-17, 19 and 20) were amended, none was cancelled, and two new claims (21 and 22) were added. Accordingly, 22 claims are now pending for reconsideration and further examination.

In section 1 of the final Office action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, and 4 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ueda et al. (U.S. 7,178,963).

In section 2, claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ogawa et al. (U.S. 6,636,282).

In section 3, claims 3, 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable Over Ueda et al. (U.S. 7,178,963) in view of Iwata et al. (U.S. 6,111,699).

In section 4, claims 5 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueda et al. (U.S. 7,178,963) in view of Honda et al. (U.S. 2002/0012085).

In section 5, claims 6 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueda et al. (U.S. 7,178,963) in view of Honda et al. (U.S. 2002/0012085) in further view of Iwata et al. (U.S. 6,111,699).

In section 6, claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueda et al. (U.S. 7,178,963) in view of Iwamoto et al. (U.S. 5,046,826).

In section 7, claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogawa et al. (U.S. 6,636,282) in view of Iwamoto et al. (U.S. 5,046,826).

In light of the above amendments to independent claims 1 and 14 and the remarks that follow, it is respectfully submitted that the foregoing rejections are now moot.

In particular, independent claims 1 and 14 now include the following distinguishing limitations:

Claim 1: "... a receiving container having ... a plate defining first and second ledges extending at least partially about an upper periphery thereof, the second ledge being disposed above the first ledge and having an inner edge generally coincident with or disposed outside of an outer edge of the first ledge such that the first and second ledges do not overlap;"

Claim 14: "... a receiving container including ... a plate defining first and second ledges extending at least partially about an upper periphery thereof, ... the second ledge being disposed above the first ledge and having an inner edge generally coincident with or disposed outside of an outer edge of the first ledge such that the first and second ledges do not overlap."


As may be seen in Fig. 16 thereof, Ogawa et al. teach a receiving container MCA having sidewalls with ledges defined by a U-shaped channel at the upper end thereof. However, the ledges are aligned with each other, such that their respective inner and outer edges are respectively coincident and they overlap each other. This necessitates, *inter alia*, leaving one end of the housing open so that the light diffusing plate SCT can be slid laterally onto the lower ledge of the housing during assembly, unlike the housing of the present invention, which enables the diffusion members to be installed (and removed) from the housing in the vertical direction after assembly of the housing. Since none of the art of record teaches or suggests the foregoing limitations and resulting advantages, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 14, as well as the claims respectively dependent from them, including new dependent claims 21 and 22, are allowable over the art of record.

On page 7 of the Office action, the Examiner objected to claims 9, 12 and 16-20 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, for which the Applicant expresses appreciation. However, in light of the foregoing reply, it is respectfully submitted that all claims (1-22) of the Application are now allowable over the art of record, and Applicant therefore respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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If there are any questions regarding this reply, the undersigned can be reached at the number below.

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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.	
	August 9, 2007
Sandra L. Carr	Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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